

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A channel quality reporting method for use by a wireless terminal, the method comprising:

measuring at least one of an amplitude ~~and~~ or a phase of a first pilot signal corresponding to a first pilot tone to produce a first measured signal value;

generating a first channel quality indicator value from ~~said the~~ first measured signal value according to a first function which uses at least ~~said the~~ first measured signal value as an input;

transmitting the first channel quality indicator value, wherein transmitting the first channel quality indicator value includes:

incorporating ~~said the~~ first channel quality indicator value into a first message;
and

transmitting ~~said the~~ first message over a wireless communications link;

measuring at least one of an amplitude ~~and~~ or a phase of a second pilot signal corresponding to a second pilot tone to produce a second measured signal value, the second pilot signal having a different transmission power than ~~said the~~ first pilot signal;

generating a second channel quality indicator value from ~~said the~~ second measured signal value according to a second function which uses at least ~~said the~~ second measured signal value as an input; and

transmitting the second channel quality indicator value, wherein transmitting the second channel quality indicator value includes:

incorporating ~~said the~~ second channel quality indicator value into ~~said the~~ first message; and

transmitting ~~said the~~ second channel quality indicator value with ~~said the~~ first value in ~~said the~~ first message over the wireless communications link.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first ~~and~~ or second pilot signals is a NULL signal transmitted with zero power.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein generating a first channel quality indicator value from said the first signal measurement value according to a first function includes:

estimating the power included in at least one of the first pilot signal and or second ~~received~~ pilot signal[[s]].

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein generating a second channel quality indicator value from said the second signal measurement value according to a second function includes:

estimating ~~the a~~ received power included in at least the second ~~received~~ pilot signal.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein generating a second channel quality indicator value from said the second measured signal value according to a second function further includes:

estimating ~~the a~~ signal to noise ratio of the second ~~received~~ pilot signal.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein generating a first channel quality indicator value from said the first measured signal value according to a first function includes:

estimating ~~the a~~ signal to noise ratio of the first ~~received~~ pilot signal.

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein generating a second channel quality indicator value from said the second measured signal value according to a second function includes:

estimating ~~the a~~ signal to noise ratio of the second ~~received~~ pilot signal.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said the first and second pilot tones are received during different non-overlapping time periods.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said the first and second pilot tones correspond to the same frequency.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said the first and second pilot tones are received during the same time period, the first and second pilot tones corresponding to different frequencies.

11-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
repeatedly performing said the steps of:
measuring a first pilot signal to produce a first measured signal value;
generating a first channel quality indicator value;
incorporating said the first channel quality indicator value into a first message;
transmitting said the first message over a wireless communications link;
measuring a second pilot signal;
generating a second channel quality indicator value;
incorporating said the second channel quality indicator value into a second message which is different from said the first message; and
transmitting said the second message over said the wireless communications link.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, further comprising:
periodically repeating said the steps of transmitting the first channel quality indicator value and the second channel quality indicator value to transmit the corresponding values generated by repeatedly performing said the measuring and generating steps, the generated first and second channel quality indicator values being transmitted in an interleaved manner over time.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein said the interleaved manner includes alternating the transmission of said the first and second messages.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 13, wherein ~~said the~~ first and second messages are transmitted using communications channel segments dedicated to carrying channel quality indicator values, ~~said the~~ messages carrying no explicit message types to indicate ~~said the~~ messages are to report channel quality values.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein ~~said the first and second~~ messages are transmitted during pre-selected dedicated time slots dedicated for use by ~~said the~~ wireless terminal, ~~said wherein~~ dedication of ~~said the~~ dedicated time slots ~~precluding precludes~~ other wireless terminals using ~~said the~~ dedicated time slots.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~said the~~ wireless terminal is located in a first sector of a sectorized cell in which each sector uses ~~the a~~ same set of tones, the step of measuring at least one of an amplitude ~~and or~~ a phase of a first pilot signal to produce a first measured signal value including:

performing ~~said the~~ first pilot signal measurement during a time period during which a sector located adjacent ~~said the~~ first sector transmits another pilot signal on ~~the a~~ same tone as the first pilot but using a different pre-selected transmission power from the pre-selected transmission power used to transmit the first pilot signal.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of 18, wherein ~~said the~~ another pilot signal is a NULL pilot signal and wherein ~~said the~~ different pre-selected transmission power used to transmit ~~said the~~ another pilot signal during ~~said the~~ time period is zero.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19, wherein ~~said the~~ second step of measuring at least one of an amplitude ~~and or~~ a phase of a second pilot signal to produce a second measured signal value, includes:

performing ~~said the~~ second pilot signal measurement during a time period during which a sector located adjacent ~~said the~~ first sector transmits an additional pilot signal on ~~the a~~ same tone as the second pilot using the same pre-selected transmission power as the pre-selected transmission power used to transmit the second pilot signal.

21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein the first and second pilot signal measurements are performed at substantially the same time.
22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21, further comprising:
measuring, at said same time, ~~the~~ power received on a third tone on which no signals are transmitted during said same time, said same time being a symbol period used to transmit one symbol.
23. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, further comprising:
determining relative position of the wireless terminal to at least two adjacent sectors to the sector in which the wireless terminal is located based on ~~said~~ the first and second signal measurements; and
transmitting position information indicating a relative position to a sector boundary to a base station.
24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 23, further comprising:
selecting channel information to be transmitted to ~~said~~ the base station as a function of the ~~determined~~ relative position to a sector boundary.
25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 24, wherein different channel condition information is transmitted when ~~said~~ the wireless terminal is near a first sector boundary than when [[it]] the wireless terminal is near a second sector boundary.
26. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the first channel quality indicator value is a function of a ratio of channel gain of an interfering sector and the sector in which the wireless terminal is located.

27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the second signal measurement is made during a time period where during which each of the sectors transmits a NULL on said the second tone; and

wherein said the second channel quality indicator value is a measurement of the noise on said the second tone during the transmission of said the NULL by each of the sectors of the cell on said the second tone.

28. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein said the method is further directed to using channel quality information to control transmission power in a sector of a cell, the method comprising:

operating a base station to receive said the first and second channel quality indicator values; and

operating the base station to calculate, from the first and second channel quality indicator values, an amount of transmission power required to achieve a desired target signal to noise ratio at said the wireless terminal, said wherein calculating the amount of transmission power comprises employing requiring at least two different channel quality indicator values to determining determine said the amount of transmission power.

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 28, further comprising:

periodically repeating said the step of operating the base station to calculate said the amount of transmission power using a different set of first and second channel quality indicator values received from said the wireless terminal, each different set of first and second channel quality indicator values corresponding to a different symbol time during which said the first and second pilot signal measurements were made.

30. (Currently Amended) A wireless terminal, said the wireless terminal including:
receiver means for receiving pilot signals;
measuring means for measuring at least one of an amplitude ~~and~~ or a phase of a first pilot
signal to produce a first measured signal value and at least one of an amplitude ~~and~~ or a phase of
a second pilot signal to produce a second measured signal value;
channel quality indicator value generation means for generating a first channel quality
indicator value from said the first measured signal value according to a first function which uses
at least said the first measured signal value as an input and generates a second channel quality
indicator value from said the second measured signal value according to a second function which
uses at least said the second measured signal value as an input, wherein said the channel quality
indicator value generation means includes said the second channel quality indicator value in said the
first message; and
transmitter means for transmitting the first and second channel quality indicator values.

31. (Currently Amended) The wireless terminal of claim 30, wherein said the channel quality
indicator value generation means includes software instructions for controlling a processing
device to:

estimate ~~the~~ received power included in at least one of the first pilot signal ~~and~~ or the
second ~~received~~ pilot signal[[s]].

32. (Currently Amended) The wireless terminal of claim 31, wherein said the channel quality
indicator value generation means further includes additional software instructions for controlling
the processing device to:

estimate ~~the~~ received power included in at least the second ~~received~~ pilot signal.

33. (Currently Amended) The wireless terminal of claim 31, wherein said the channel quality
indicator value generation means further includes additional software instructions for controlling
the processing device to:

estimate ~~the~~ a signal to noise ratio of the second ~~received~~ pilot signal.

34. (Currently Amended) The wireless terminal of claim 31, wherein ~~said the~~ transmitter means includes:

message generation means for generating a first message including ~~said the~~ first channel quality indicator value.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Currently Amended) The wireless terminal of claim 34, wherein ~~said the~~ message generation means includes machine executable instructions for controlling a machine to generate a second message including ~~said the~~ second channel quality indicator value.

37. (Currently Amended) The wireless terminal of claim 34, further comprising: means for determining ~~the a~~ position of the wireless terminal relative to a sector boundary from received signals.

38. (Currently Amended) The wireless terminal of claim 37, wherein ~~said the~~ message generation means includes position information in ~~said the~~ first message.

39. (Currently Amended) A base station, comprising:

a receiver for receiving at least two channel quality indicator values from a wireless terminal; and

means for determining from at least two different channel quality indicator values a transmission power required to achieve a ~~desired target~~ signal to noise ratio at ~~said the~~ wireless terminal, wherein ~~said the~~ at least two different channel quality indicator values correspond to different power signal measurements made by ~~said the~~ wireless terminal, ~~said the~~ different power signal measurements corresponding to different signal components but ~~the a~~ same period of time, ~~said the~~ determined transmission power being a function of ~~said the~~ at least two different channel quality indicator values.

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Currently Amended) The base station of claim 39, further comprising:
means for transmitting a signal to said the wireless terminal using a transmission power determined from said the at least two different channel quality indicator values.
42. (Currently Amended) The base station of claim 41, further comprising:
means for extracting said the at least two different channel quality values from a single message received from said the wireless terminal.
43. (Currently Amended) The base station of claim 41, further comprising:
means for extracting said the at least two different channel quality values from two separate messages received from said the wireless terminal.
44. (Currently Amended) The base station of claim 39, further comprising:
means for receiving channel quality indicator information indicating the a position of the wireless terminal relative to a second boundary included in a multi-sector cell.
45. (Currently Amended) The base station of claim 39, further comprising:
a multi-sector transmit antenna for transmitting pilot signals into a plurality of sectors of a cell at the a same time; and
a transmitter coupled to said the multi-sector antenna for supplying pilot signals to the multi-sector antenna for transmission, ~~all the plurality of~~ sectors of the cell using the a same set of tones for pilot signals, the pilot signals being transmitted at substantially the same time in each of the sectors, said the wireless terminal being located in one of said the multiple sectors.

46-50. (Cancelled)

51. (Currently Amended) A device comprising a processor configured to control said the device to implement a channel quality reporting method, the method comprising:

measuring at least one of an amplitude and or a phase of a first pilot signal corresponding to a first pilot tone to produce a first measured signal value;

generating a first channel quality indicator value from said the first measured signal value according to a first function which uses at least said the first measured signal value as an input;

transmitting the first channel quality indicator value, wherein transmitting the first channel quality indicator value includes:

incorporating said the first channel quality indicator value into a first message; and

transmitting said the first message over a wireless communications link;

measuring at least one of an amplitude and or a phase of a second pilot signal corresponding to a second pilot tone to produce a second measured signal value, the second pilot signal having a different transmission power than said that of the first pilot signal;

generating a second channel quality indicator value from said the second measured signal value according to a second function which uses at least said the second measured signal value as an input; and

transmitting the second channel quality indicator value, wherein transmitting the second channel quality indicator value includes:

incorporating said the second channel quality indicator value into said the first message; and

transmitting said the second channel quality indicator value with said the first value in said the first message over the wireless communications link.

52. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 51, wherein at least one of the first and or second pilot signals is a NULL signal transmitted with zero power.

53. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 51, wherein generating a first channel quality indicator value from said the first signal measurement value according to a first function includes:

estimating the power included in at least one of the first pilot signal and or the second ~~received~~ pilot signal[[s]].

54. (Currently Amended) A physical non-transitory computer readable medium embodying computer executable instructions for controlling a wireless terminal to implement a channel quality reporting method, the method comprising:

measuring at least one of an amplitude and or a phase of a first pilot signal corresponding to a first pilot tone to produce a first measured signal value;

generating a first channel quality indicator value from said the first measured signal value according to a first function which uses at least said the first measured signal value as an input;

transmitting the first channel quality indicator value, wherein transmitting the first channel quality indicator value includes:

incorporating said the first channel quality indicator value into a first message;
and

transmitting said the first message over a wireless communications link;

measuring at least one of an amplitude and or a phase of a second pilot signal corresponding to a second pilot tone to produce a second measured signal value, the second pilot signal having a different transmission power than said that of the first pilot signal;

generating a second channel quality indicator value from said the second measured signal value according to a second function which uses at least said the second measured signal value as an input; and

transmitting the second channel quality indicator value, wherein transmitting the second channel quality indicator value includes:

incorporating said the second channel quality indicator value into said the first message; and

transmitting said the second channel quality indicator value with said the first value in said the first message over the wireless communications link.

55. (Currently Amended) The physical non-transitory computer readable medium of claim 54, wherein at least one of the first pilot signal and or the second pilot signal[[s]] is a NULL signal transmitted with zero power.

56. (Currently Amended) The physical non-transitory computer readable medium of claim 54, wherein generating a first channel quality indicator value from said the first signal measurement value according to a first function includes:

estimating the power included in at least one of the first pilot signal and or the second received pilot signal[[s]].

57. (Currently Amended) A wireless terminal, said the wireless terminal including:
a receiver for receiving pilot signals;
a measuring module for measuring at least one of an amplitude and or a phase of a first pilot signal to produce a first measured signal value and at least one of an amplitude and or a phase of a second pilot signal to produce a second measured signal value;
a channel quality indicator value generation module for generating a first channel quality indicator value from said the first measured signal value according to a first function which uses at least said the first measured signal value as an input and generates a second channel quality indicator value from said the second measured signal value according to a second function which uses at least said the second measured signal value as an input, wherein said the channel quality indicator value generation module includes said the second channel quality indicator value in said the first message; and
a transmitter for transmitting the first and second channel quality indicator values.

58. (Currently Amended) The wireless terminal of claim 57, wherein said the transmitter includes:

a message generation module for generating a first message including said the first channel quality indicator value.

59. (Currently Amended) The wireless terminal of claim 58, wherein said the message generation module includes said the second channel quality indicator value in said the first message.

60. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a base station, the method comprising: receiving at least two channel quality indicator values from a wireless terminal; and determining from at least two different channel quality indicator values a transmission power required to achieve a desired target signal to noise ratio at said the wireless terminal, wherein said the at least two different channel quality indicator values correspond to different power signal measurements made by said the wireless terminal, said the different power signal measurements corresponding to different signal components but the a same period of time, said the determined transmission power being a function of said the at least two different channel quality indicator values.

61. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 60, further comprising: transmitting a signal to said the wireless terminal using a transmission power determined from said the at least two different channel quality indicator values.

62. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 61, further comprising: extracting said the at least two different channel quality indicator values from a single message received from said the wireless terminal.

63. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 60, further comprising: transmitting pilot signals into a plurality of sectors of a cell at substantially the same time using a multi-sector transmit antenna, the a same set of tones being used for pilot signals in each of the plurality of sectors, the pilot signals being transmitted at substantially the same time in each of the plurality of sectors, said the wireless terminal being located in one of said multiple the plurality of sectors.

64. (Currently Amended) A device comprising a processor configured to control a base station to implement a method, the method comprising:

receiving at least two channel quality indicator values from a wireless terminal; and determining from at least two different channel quality indicator values a transmission power required to achieve a desired target signal to noise ratio at said the wireless terminal, wherein said the at least two different channel quality indicator values correspond to different power signal measurements made by said the wireless terminal, said the different power signal measurements corresponding to different signal components but the a same period of time, said the determined transmission power being a function of said the at least two different channel quality indicator values.

65. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 64, wherein the method further comprises: transmitting a signal to said the wireless terminal using a transmission power determined from said the at least two different channel quality indicator values.

66. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 65, wherein the method further comprises: extracting said the at least two different channel quality indicator values from a single message received from said the wireless terminal.

67. (Currently Amended) A physical non-transitory computer readable medium embodying computer executable instructions for controlling a base station to implement a method, the method comprising:

receiving at least two channel quality indicator values from a wireless terminal; and determining from at least two different channel quality indicator values a transmission power required to achieve a desired target signal to noise ratio at said the wireless terminal, wherein said the at least two different channel quality indicator values correspond to different power signal measurements made by said the wireless terminal, said the different power signal measurements corresponding to different signal components but the a same period of time, said the determined transmission power being a function of said the at least two channel quality indicator values.

68. (Currently Amended) The physical non-transitory computer readable medium of claim 67, wherein the method further comprises:

transmitting a signal to said the wireless terminal using a transmission power determined from said the at least two different channel quality indicator values.

69. (Currently Amended) The physical non-transitory computer readable medium of claim 68, wherein the method further comprises:

extracting said the at least two different channel quality indicator values from a single message received from said the wireless terminal.

70. (Currently Amended) A base station comprising:

a receiver module for receiving at least two channel quality indicator values from a wireless terminal; and

a determination module for determining from at least two different channel quality indicator values a transmission power required to achieve a desired target signal to noise ratio at said the wireless terminal, wherein said the at least two different channel quality indicator values correspond to different power signal measurements made by said the wireless terminal, said the different power signal measurements corresponding to different signal components but the a same period of time, said the determined transmission power being a function of said the at least two different channel quality indicator values.

71. (Currently Amended) The base station of claim 70, further comprising:

a transmitter module for transmitting a signal to said the wireless terminal using a transmission power determined from said the at least two different channel quality indicator values.

72. (Currently Amended) The base station of claim 71, further comprising:

a module for extracting said the at least two different channel quality indicator values from a single message received from said the wireless terminal.